

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MANAGU 01218 141749Z

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----104595 150337Z /73

R 141512Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
TO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
SECSTATE WASHDC 6016

CONFIDENTIAL MANAGUA 1218

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MILI, NU
SUBJECT: USMILGP MOVE TO EMBASSY

REF: (A) STATE 51659; (B) BRASILIA 1770

1. OUR MILGP INFORMS US THAT GON IS PROBABLY 90 PERCENT DOWN THE ROAD TO COMPLETING AN ARMS PACKAGE WITH BRAZIL. THIS ARMS PACKAGE WOULD CONSIST OF A NEW ARMORED BN OF 20-30 WHEELED ARMORED PERSONNEL CARS WITH 90 MM CANNON (EQUIVALENT TO CADILLAC GUAGE MODEL). ACCORDING TO MAJOR SOMOZA, DELIVERY WOULD BE ONE MONTH AFTER SIGNING OF CONTRACT. CONTINUING ALONG LINES OF MAJOR SOMOZA'S CONVERSATION WITH USMILGP, BRAZIL HAS OFFERED 30-MAN "MILITARY MISSION" TO IMPLEMENT THIS PACKAGE. WHEN INFORMED THAT THIS MOVE WOULD BE CONTRARY TO TERMS OF AGREEMENT WITH USMILGP, YOUNG SOMOZA STATED THAT IT WOULD BE A "CIVILIAN" MISSION FROM BRAZIL. HE ADDED THAT IT WAS HIS UNDERSTANDING THAT MOVING THE USMILGP INTO THE EMBASSY WOULD ALSO BE CONTRACRY TO THE TERMS OF OUR MILITARY AGREEMENT.

2. EMBASSY IS UNSURE WHETHER A TRAINING MISSION FROM BRAZIL, REGARDLESS OF THE NUMBER, WOULD VIOLATE THE S-GON MILITARY ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE ADVICE FROM DEPARTMENT ON THIS QUESTION AS WELL AS AN ANALYSIS AS TO WHETHER THE MILGP MOVE TO THE EMBASSY CONSTITUTES IN ANY WAY A VIOLATION OF THAT AGREEMENT.

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PAGE 02 MANAGU 01218 141749Z

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Message Attributes

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